

British Warships Aid in Repulsing German Attacks

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Peasant women bringing biscuits to Belgian soldiers in the trenches near Duffell, while the attack by the Germans on Antwerp was raging.

Peasant women, at great personal risk, distributing waivants to the Belgian soldiers in the trenches between Duffell and Lierre, while the attack by the Germans on Antwerp was raging.

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EVACUATION OF OSTEND BY GERMANS REPORTED

West Flanders Army Being Hampered Into Zigzag Line by Combined Efforts of Navy and Troops.

KAISER'S FORCES DRIVEN BACK
British Ships Playing Important Part in Warfare Along Coast—Detachments of Marines With Machine Guns Landed.

LONDON, October 22.—Reports that the Germans had evacuated Ostend and were retreating toward Bruges, and that their best Flanders army, now in the vicinity of the coast south of Courtrai was being hampered into a zigzag line by the combined efforts of the British navy and the British, French and Belgian troops, seemed to coincide to some extent with the fact that, in the absence of claims of any advances from Berlin, opinion here was that the fighting along the canals of North Belgium had been generally against the invaders.

At any rate, the Germans at one point have been driven back as far as Thourout, and some detachments say that their communications in the middle of West Flanders have been so disorganized that troops from Ghent are marching direct to Courtrai, rather than join their comrades to the north, who are in danger of being cut off. The evacuation of Ostend was not confirmed this morning, but from Berlin itself came a report that British ships were shelling the town, while another dispatch said that the guns of the war vessels had destroyed the village of Slype, on the canal between Ostend and Bruges, where it is said the Germans have their headquarters. At Slype, only a few miles northeast of Ostend, a British fleet of 1340 British ships achieved a victory over the French.

It is clear now that ships have been playing an important part in the warfare along the coast. The admiralty officially announced that the monitors Severn, Humber and Mersey not only bombarded the German position south of Ostend, but landed detachments of marines with machine guns.

ELEVEN WAR VESSELS JOIN IN OPERATIONS
It is reported, from other sources, that eleven war vessels in all are taking part in the operations, but they are not named.

Curiously enough, the monitors retain that title from "Lincoln's cheese box" of Civil War fame, and so far apparently, they have been able to lodge submarine attacks. How the German submarines get to Ostend is unknown.

With the fighting along the Belgian coast, hardly more than seventy miles from the German front, the British necessarily holds chief interest with the British public, though, according to last night's Paris official communication, there were violent actions here and there along more than a seventy-mile front, extending almost due north and south from Nieuport to Labasse. Everywhere the allies claimed to be holding their positions.

The foremost of the German right have been spoken of daily since Ostend was taken and to-day comes a report that Austrian forces were being transferred from the Italian frontier for this purpose.

Rumors that Emperor William is seriously ill are filtering in here via Paris, and this, with a report that a German fleet is off Falsterbo, Sweden, is among the usual crop of unconfirmed narratives that London is discussing.

From the east comes a claim of the Austrians that they are retaking the last point in the Carpathians held by the Russians, and it was added, that there is "now no enemy on Hungarian soil."

The general character of the attacks has led certain officials of the War Office to believe that the renewed activity of the invaders is a screen to shield an early retiring movement. It directed its early assaults with great violence, but the recent attacks have not been repeated with the enormous energy which characterized those previously made. This is taken to mean that the general movement is not actually offensive, but is designed to convey the impression of great strength.

While actually the enemy is preparing to establish itself on a new line, this theory is borne out by reports of the British flying corps to General Sir John French's headquarters, that German engineers have been hard at work laying out a new line of defense far behind that at present occupied by the Kaiser's troops.

Although the exact location of this position is withheld, it is believed that the German general staff is convinced that it cannot longer hope to gain ground from the north, and now plans to withdraw its main fighting line into Belgium, and devote its energies to an offensive, which is being developed on the French coast and left in the neighborhood of Yverdon and the line of the Meuse rivers.

Both the Belgian and the Franco-British lines held firm to-day, according to the midnight bulletin issued from Berlin, which was given out by General Gallieni in Paris.

The most violent fighting since that chronicled in the official bulletin issued in the afternoon occurred in the region between Arras and the Oise River. Here, the British and Belgian bombardment from the German field guns, the infantry attempted an advance in force, but the shell fire from the German guns, both heavy and quick-firing, was so withering that the massed ranks of the oncoming attackers were torn and killed by the shelling.

Compelled to retire in the face of the brilliant resistance offered by the French, the Germans returned to the attack again, but with no better results.

About Lille the destruction caused by the furious fighting of the past week has been terrific. Whole villages have been razed in the path of the shells, as the Germans were driven back, step by step, onto Lille.

Great gains in ground—from fifteen to twenty miles in some places—have been made by the French and British in this advance on Lille.

In the fighting in the north, where the left wing army is heavily engaged, aided by the British and the Belgians, attacks by the Germans in considerable force have been repelled near Dixmude and around Yverdon, while at Arras, the French and Belgians have been able to advance their positions at several points, immediately digging themselves in.

At Pricourt, east of Albert, a German advance also was halted with disastrous results to the enemy.

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SEA AND LAND FORCES JOIN IN OPERATIONS

British Drednoughts Add Their Strength to Belgian Attacks on Germans.

AIRMEN DIRECT FIRE OF GUNS
For Spectacular Effect, Ferocity of Action and Appalling Losses Battle Is Realization of Most Fantastic Dream Picture.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LONDON, October 22.—On the western Belgian coast there is being fought a battle which, for display of advanced military and naval science, for spectacular effect, for ferocity of action and appalling losses, is a realization of the most fantastic dream picture of the "war of the future" ever put on paper or canvas.

The admirably strongest army in the world is being held in check by one of the weakest, numerically.

The Germans, heavily reinforced by fresh land troops, and by a naval brigade of 15,000 men, have extended their base from Ostend to Marikerke and Middle Kerke, halfway between Ostend and Nieuport, and from these positions are shelling the Belgian line, which extends from Nieuport south along the River Yser, a distance of eighteen miles, with their left flank resting on the coast.

The Belgians are being aided by the French land forces, the British warships on the sea, and the British monitors and small gunboats in the canals and rivers.

When not directing the fire of their huge seventeen-inch guns against the Belgian position, the Germans are replying to the cannonading of the British Drednoughts, which to-day added their strength to the British fleet.

The fire of the British guns is directed and corrected constantly by observers in captive balloons and aeroplanes. The flying machines circle low about the German positions, risking death at every swoop, in order to be certain of their periscopes for but a moment above the surface, to put their engines of death and to disappear in a twinkling.

The forces of nature itself are being employed, for to-day's dispatches report that the dikes of the Yser have been cut and the banks for considerable distances have been flooded, while stretching away in the direction of the attacking German front, at high tide, the land is so inundated as to effectively preclude the possibility of any advance.

The continued rains had already made the land between the two lines swampy, and, with this added inundation, the Germans to-day found they were unable to progress even far enough for effective range against the British ships.

The ferocity of the three-cornered battle continued undiminished to-day. The losses on both sides are reported to be terrific.

The Germans are reported to have lost 10,000 men and wounded on the field.

In the British naval bombardment to-day the town of Slype, which was held in force by the Germans, was utterly destroyed, and the house occupied by the German headquarters was blown to bits.

General von Trip and his staff at Middle Kerke are reported in a news agency dispatch to have been annihilated by a shell from the British ships.

One of the British balloons, while signaling the range to the ships, was killed by the German guns.

The Germans for the first time in the fighting on the coast are declared to be on the defensive.

GOOD PROGRESS BEING MADE
Harding in Conference With Bankers on Plans for Cotton Fund.

WASHINGTON, October 22.—W. P. G. Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board, returned from New York to-night well satisfied with the progress being made on plans for the \$50,000,000 cotton relief fund. He was in conference at New York with Festus J. Wade and other bankers supporting the plan, and further conferences will be held here to-morrow.

Florida Private Wins.
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., October 22.—Private J. E. Crook, Florida National Guard, won gold to relieve Americans in the government in the national rifle match, the closing event of the Southern shooting tournament, here to-day. Sergeant Harry Goff, Tennessee, was second, and Captain C. J. Bond, North Carolina, third.

Sentenced to State Prison.
BOSTON, October 22.—Joseph Rosenfeld, of Chicago, was sentenced to-day in the Superior Court to from six to eight years and a fine of \$10,000 for the murder of three men in the city of New York, to three to five years in State prison for participation in the so-called "Lucky" book frauds. Both were found guilty last March of obtaining \$47,000 from Mrs. Mary L. Rogers of this city, by fraudulent sale of books.

NEW LINE OF DEFENSES FOR KAISER'S TROOPS

Renewed Activity of Germans Believed to Be Screen to Shield Retiring Movement.

NOT ACTUALLY ON OFFENSIVE
Theory Borne Out by Reports of British Flying Corps—Terrific Destruction Caused by Furious Fighting in Lille Region.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.)
PARIS, October 22.—The furious general attack launched by the Germans on both wings of the allies' front to-day raged with unabated energy, but the most violent efforts of the invaders were futile.

The general character of the attacks has led certain officials of the War Office to believe that the renewed activity of the invaders is a screen to shield an early retiring movement. It directed its early assaults with great violence, but the recent attacks have not been repeated with the enormous energy which characterized those previously made.

This theory is borne out by reports of the British flying corps to General Sir John French's headquarters, that German engineers have been hard at work laying out a new line of defense far behind that at present occupied by the Kaiser's troops.

Although the exact location of this position is withheld, it is believed that the German general staff is convinced that it cannot longer hope to gain ground from the north, and now plans to withdraw its main fighting line into Belgium, and devote its energies to an offensive, which is being developed on the French coast and left in the neighborhood of Yverdon and the line of the Meuse rivers.

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